of the bridge across the Minachil river on the Lalam-Ponkunnam road, the Chief Engineer has got most of the materials ready and he has given instructions to the Divisional officer to begin the masonry work. So you will see the work will be taken up immediately.

2. In regard to the Mundakayam-Punjar road, as you say that you are quite willing to arrange for cutting the road under the Ryots' Roads Rules, the Chief Engineer will be ready to give you the alignment and will help you with culverts and so on.

3. Then you ask for the establishment of a First Class Magistrate's court at Minachil. I do not know why everybody all over the country wants a Magistrate's court set like a jewel in his taluk. This question of a First Class Magistrate's court, as you know, has already come up before this, and I am now having it further examined to see whether it will be possible without breach of any great principle to meet the wishes of your taluk in the matter.

4. In the matter of transfer of the control of the Punjar police out-post to the Minachil police station and the establishment of a charging station at Punjar and Ramapuram, the Commissioner of Police advises me that the opening of an additional charging station in the Minachil taluk is desirable, and, if finances permit, he recommends that this should be done. So, I shall see whether it will be possible to spare enough money next year for the purpose.

5. All the other points so clearly set out in your statement will be carefully considered one by one.

139. Needs of the Minachil taluk, Group II.

MR. JOSEPH THOMAS (*Member, Minachil taluk, Group II*) said that a bridge across the Minachil river on the Lalam-Ponkunnam road was a long-felt want and that as a result of repeated representations in the Assembly its construction had been sanctioned. It should be constructed as quickly as possible.

Half the number of criminal cases filed in the Kottayam First Class Magistrate's court was from Minachil. There was congestion and delay in the disposal of cases in the Kottayam First Class Magistrate's court. The people of Minachil were also finding it difficult to go up to Kottayam. A First Class Magistrate at Minachil was on these counts a real necessity.

The fish and vegetable markets which were held in the Pala bazaar for nearly fifty years were now shifted to a place outside the town limits to the great inconvenience of the people. The place was nearly three quarters of a mile from the river. This rendered transportation of articles difficult. The sole consideration of the Government in agreeing to this proposal was that the land necessary for the purpose need not be paid for. In view of the difficulties which the people would be put to if it was established as a public market outside the town limits, the Member requested the Dewan to inspect the place before the proposal was given effect to.

The construction of a *ghat* in the Minachil river near the market was very necessary for bathing purposes and for lading and unlading goods. This could be done without any heavy expenditure and should be attended to as early as possible.

The cremation ground of the Brahmins was in the heart of the town. It should be removed without any delay.

The Minachil-Kadutturutti road was not yet completed although the Government had sanctioned the necessary funds as early as 1918. This was due to the indifference of the Public Works Department. This road should be completed at least in the current year.

The village road branching from Lalam-Ramapuram road and reaching Kurichittanam and the village road branching from the 1st mile of the Lalam-Ramapuram road and meeting the Ramapuram road should be completed by the Government and maintained. The ryots' road from Cheppunkal to Kozhuvanal and the trace from

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the 8th mile of the Atirampuzha-Lalam road, constructed by the people eight years ago, the village road from the 117th mile of the Main Central Road to Uzhavur and the village road from Piravam-Ramapuram road taking along Alapuram, Monipalli, Uzhavur and other places, should be rendered fit for cart traffic.

The canal from Kudappalam coursing through Arikkara, Veliyannur and other places reached Vettikkamukku. It was very useful both as a water-way and as an irrigation channel. But it was now silted up. It was therefore necessary to deepen it and the bends made easier so as to prevent damages to the banks from floods.

The people of Kuravalangad had to go either to Atirampuzha or Kuttattukulam, ten miles away, for medical aid and to Ettumanur and Kadutturutti for registering their deeds. A dispensary and a sub-registrar's office should therefore be established at that place.

Kidangur also was an important place. A sub-registrar's office there was indispensable.

Uzhavur *pakuthi* was within the jurisdiction of the Ettumanur Magistrate. In other matters, it went along with Minachil. It was therefore desirble to re-transfer the *pakuthi* to the jurisdiction of the Minachil Magistrate's court.

The people of Minachil were hard pressed for want of cultivable land. It would be a great benefit to them if Kalaketti, Nurumala and Ramapuram reserves were disafforested for purposes of cultivation.

The village road from Minachil Taluk Cutcherry to Puliyannur camp-shed should be made a cart road. This was urgently necessary because the section of the Atirampuzha-Lalam road between Puliyannur and Pala was subject to submersion during the rains when traffic along that road was impossible.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Joseph Thomas, the first two points regarding a bridge across the Minachil river and the First Class Magistrate's court have already been disposed of in my reply to the previous speaker.

2. In the matter of fish and vegetable markets at Pala bazaar, it seems to me that there are two parties at Pala who are squabbling as to whether the markets should be in juxta-position to each other or separately held or whether the one should be held and the other abandoned. A deputation waited upon me in regard to this very thing and I have taken notes of the matter for consideration, and possibly, I may have to come there myself to see it. I hope it will not be necessary for me to go and tell the people where they should buy their vegetables or where they should buy fish.

3. As regards the bathing *ghat*, the Chief Engineer considers it necessary, and he has already taken steps to provide one alongside the bridge.

4. You are not the only one that has asked for permission to remove the burning ground. The Peishkar has taken the matter up, and if a suitable place acceptable to the Brahmins of the place is found, the change will be effected.

5. The conversion of the Lalam-Kozha road has been slightly delayed owing to land acquisition proceedings. The work will be proceeded with and the construction of two bridges will also be taken in hand soon.

6. As regards the establishment of a Dispensary at Kuravalangad, the Administrative Board, Medical Services, have recommended it. They will settle the details and address the Government in due course.

7. The question of a sub-registrar's office at Kidangur will be considered.

8. Some of the remaining points have already been answered in reply to another Member. In regard to the rest, their consideration has to lie over.

140. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. K. PARAMESVARA PANIKKAR (*Member, Shertallai taluk, Group I*) said that the Alleppey-Shertallai canal which cost the Government lakhs of rupees had been abandoned without any benefit either to the people or to the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly